IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1. to 18. (Canceled)
- 19. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
 - an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
 - a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
Ar1 & & X \\
N - Ar3 - N & Y
\end{array}$$

where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; Ar3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted phenylene group, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being

six; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted aryl group containing five or more conjugated bonds and substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

- 20. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said holeinjecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
Ar1 & & & X \\
N - Ar3 - N & & Y \\
Ar2 & & & \end{array}$$

where Ar1 and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group; Ar3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted p-phenylene

group, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being six; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group containing five or more conjugated bonds and substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

- 21. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
Ar1 & X & (1) \\
N - Ar3 - N & Y & \\
Ar2 & & \end{array}$$

where Arl and Ar2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl

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group; Ar3 represents a substituted or unsubstituted m-phenylene group, the number of carbon atoms in the phenylene group being six; X represents a substituent containing two or more carbon rings and non-planarly bonding to a diphenylamine portion; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group containing five or more conjugated bonds and substituted with an electron-donating substituent.

- 22. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (6):

(6)

$$R_4$$
 R_6
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7
 R_7
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8

where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

23. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl]amino} phenyl)diphenylamine.

- 24. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 22, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (6) is (4-{[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl)) phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.
- 25. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said holeinjecting electrode; and
 - a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (7):

(7)

$$R_4$$
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7
 R_7
 R_7
 R_8
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8

where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

26. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl] amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

- 27. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 25, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (7) is (4-{[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.
- 28. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said holeinjecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (8):

(8)

where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

29. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino)vinyl]phenyl}{4-(9-anthryl) phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

- 30. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 28, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (8) is [4-({4-[2-aza-2-(diphenylamino)vinyl]phenyl}{4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.
- 31. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (9):

(9)

$$R_4$$
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8
 R_8

where R4, R5, R6, and R7 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom or an electron-donating substituent.

32. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl][4-(9-anthryl)phenyl] amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.

- 33. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 31, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (9) is (4-{[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl][4-(10-methoxy(9-anthryl))phenyl]amino}phenyl)diphenylamine.
- 34. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said holeinjecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (10):

(10)

$$R_3$$
 R_6
 R_7
 R_8

where R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, and R6 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

35. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is

[4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

- 36. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 34, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (10) is [4-({4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.
- 37. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (11):

(11)

where R1, R2, R7, R8, R9, and R10 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

38. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is

[4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl) (9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

- 39. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 37, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (11) is [4-({4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]bis(4methoxyphenyl) amine.
- 40. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said holeinjecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (12):

(12)

where R1 to R6 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; and An represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings.

41. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is

[4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl) (9-anthryl)]phenyl}[4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl]amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.

- 42. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 40, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (12) is [4-({4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}{4-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)phenyl}amino)phenyl]bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amine.
- 43. (Currently Amended) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (13):

(13)

$$R_1$$
 N
 An_1
 X_1

where R1 and R2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group; An1 and An2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents an arylene group composed of two or more substituted or unsubstituted fused rings; and X1 and X2 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a substituted or unsubstituted 2,2-diphenylvinyl group, 4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl group, or fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl group or a hydrogen atom.

- 44. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is {4-[bis(4-(9-anthryl)phenyl)amino]phenyl}diphenylamine.
- 45. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(2,2-diphenylvinyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl}amino) phenyl]diphenylamine.
- 46. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(4,4-diphenylbuta-1,3-dienyl)(9-anthryl)]phenyl} amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.
- 47. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 43, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (13) is [4-(bis{4-[10-(fluorene-9-ylidenmethyl)(9-anthryl)]-[phenyl}amino)phenyl]diphenylamine.
- 48. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;

an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and

a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (14):

(14)

where R4 represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, or an aralkyl group; and R1, R2, and R3 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group.

49. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-(diphenylamino)phenyl][4-(4-phenylphenyl)phenyl] phenylamine.

- 50. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 48, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (14) is [4-{bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino}phenyl][4-{4-(4-methoxyphenyl)phenyl}][4-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)phenyl]amine.
- 51. (Previously Presented) A thin film EL device comprising at least:
 - a hole-injecting electrode;
- an electron-injecting electrode opposed to said hole-injecting electrode; and
- a luminescent layer sandwiched between said hole-injecting electrode and said electron-injecting electrode, said luminescent layer containing a compound represented by the following general formula (15):

(15)

$$R_2$$
 N
 R_3
 R_4

where R1, R2, R3, and R4 may be the same or different, and each independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an alkoxy group.

52. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 51, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (15) is [4-(diphenylamino)phenyl][bis{4-(4-phenylphenyl)phenyl}]amine.

53. (Original) A thin film EL device according to claim 51, wherein said compound represented by the general formula (15) is [4-{bis(4-methoxyphenyl)amino}phenyl]bis[4-{4-(4-methoxyphenyl) phenyl}phenyl]amine.